

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T STATE 096645

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS: LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE REQUEST FOR USG ASSISTANCE

REF: BEIRUT 5755, MOSCOW 5697, JIDDA 2054

1. SINCE OUTLOOK APPEARS IMPROVED NOW THAT GOL AND
FEDAYEEN HAVE COME TO AN ARRANGEMENT, BELIEVE WE CAN
ACCOMPLISH WHAT LEBANESE ASK OF US THROUGH BASICALLY
LOW- KEY APPROACHES TO SOVIETS, SAUDIS, KUWAITIS, UAE
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AND IRANIANS. OUR GENERAL LINE SHOULD BE ONE OF SATISFACTION OVER GOL- FEDAYEEN ARRANGEMENT AND EXPRESSION OF HOPE THAT ALL CONCERNED WILL DO THEIR BEST TO SEE THAT IT IS IMPLEMENTED. WITH SAUDIS, KUWAITIS AND UAE WE WOULD ADDITIONALLY WANT TO MAKE CLEAR OUR DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THEIR FAILURE TO GIVE SUPPORT TO LEBANON DURING CRISIS AND URGE THEY PLAY MORE POSITIVE ROLE NOW.

2. FOR MOSCOW: APPROACH SHOULD BE CAST IN TERMS OF CONSULTATION WITH USSR ON PROBLEM OF MUTUAL CONCERN. YOU SHOULD SAY USG IS VERY PLEASED THAT GOL AND FEDAYEEN HAVE REACHED AN ARRANGEMENT, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND MEETS ESSENTIAL NEEDS OF BOTH SIDES AND THEREFORE OPENS UP PROSPECT FOR RETURN OF CALM AND REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS SOURCE OF MIDDLE EAST TENSION. YOU SHOULD SAY WE THINK BOTH USG AND USSR HAVE DEMONSTRATED RESPONSIBILITY AND STATESMANSHIP IN LEBANESE CRISIS. WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT

THAT THIS CONTINUE IN FUTURE. MOST IMPORTANT THING NOW THAT ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN GOL AND FEDAYEEN IS THAT IT BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED. USSR CAN CONTINUE TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE BY USING ITS INFLUENCE WITH SYRIA AND WITH FEDAYEEN TO ASSURE THAT GOL- FEDAYEEN ARRANGEMENT IS RESPECTED AND APPLIED EFFECTIVELY. FYI: RE PARA 1 MOSCOW 5697, WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED SPECIFIC ARMS REQUEST FROM LEBANESE. ASSUMING WE DO AND ARE ABLE TO MEET IT, WE WOULD CONSIDER DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS ABOUT ANY ACTION CONTEMPLATED BY US. END FYI

3. FOR JIDDA, KUWAIT AND ABU DHABI: SUGGEST YOU CAST YOUR APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENT IN TERMS OF IMPORTANCE OF LEBANON TO STABILITY AND PROGRESS OF ALL MIDDLE EAST STATES, PARTICULARLY MODERATES, AND USG CONCERN FOR BEST INTERESTS BOTH OF LEBANON AND OF PALESTINIANS. USG IS VERY PLEASED THAT CRISIS HAS NOW SUBSIDED AND THAT GOL AND FEDAYEEN HAVE REACHED ARRANGEMENT WHICH APPARENTLY IS SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES. WHILE MAKING POINTS PARA 5 JIDDA 2054, YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT, FRANKLY, WE WERE DISAPPOINTED OVER ABSENCE OF SUPPORT FOR GOL BY MODERATE ARAB STATES DURING DIFFICULT DAYS EARLIER THIS MONTH.

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LEBANON CONTINUES TO FACE DIFFICULT SITUATION, AND WE BELIEVE IT IS IN INTEREST OF SAG (GOK, UAE) TO GIVE IT ALL POSSIBLE SUPPORT. IT IS MOST IMPORTANT NOW THAT GOL- FEDAYEEN ARRANGEMENT BE EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENTED, WITHOUT INFRACTION OR BACKSLIDING BY FEDAYEEN. IF IT IS NOT, THERE IS LIKELY TO BE CONTINUING ROUND OF CRISES WHICH WILL UNDERMINE STABILITY AND POSSIBILITY EVEN INTEGRITY

AND INDEPENDENCE OF LEBANON. HAS SAG (GOK, UAE) GIVEN
THOUGHT TO WHAT CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE FOR THEMSELVES
SHOULD THIS HAPPEN? WE URGE THAT, IN THEIR OWN SELF-
INTEREST, THEY DO WHATEVER THEY CAN TO ASSURE THAT
FEDAYEEN RESPECT PROMISES MADE IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOL.

4. FOR AMMAN: SEE NO NEED FOR ANY FURTHER IMMEDIATE
ACTION BEYOND YOUR TALK WITH KING HUSSEIN (AMMAN 2672).
IT IS SUFFICIENT FOR TIME BEING THAT JORDAN BE FOLLOWING
LEBANESE SITUATION CLOSELY AND PREPARED TO HELP IF
NECESSARY AND IN APPROPRIATE WAY. YOU MAY TELL KING WE
APPRECIATE SUPPORT HE HAS ALREADY GIVEN LEBANON AND HIS
WILLINGNESS TO BE HELPFUL IN FUTURE IF NEED BE.

5. FOR TEHRAN: CONCUR YOUR DISCUSSING LEBANESE SITUA-
TION WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY AS PER PARA 2 TEHRAN 3453.
DEPARTMENT' S THOUGHTS ON POSSIBLE CONTINGENCY ACTIONS
WILL BE SENT YOU SHORTLY. RUSH

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LONDON
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